

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for temporarily deferring transmission of packets/frames to a destination port in a buffered switch is disclosed. When a request for transmission of at least one packet/frame to the destination port is received, it is

5 determined whether the destination port is available to receive the at least one packet/frame. The transmission of the at least one packet/frame is deferred when the destination port is not available to receive the at least one packet/frame. The packet/frame identifier and memory location for each deferred packet/frame is stored in a deferred queue and the process then repeats for the next packet/frame.

10 Periodically, the apparatus attempts to transmit the packets/frames in the deferred queue to their respective destination ports.